

REMARKS

Claims 9-11, 24-29 and 31-49 are pending. Claims 9, 24, 25 and 27 are amended, and claims 1-8, 12-23 and 30 are canceled. Furthermore, claims 31-49 are added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant greatly appreciates that the Office Action indicates that claims 9-17 and 30 contain allowable subject matter.

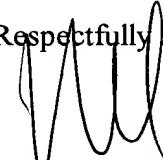
The Office Action rejects claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 18, 19 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tuytelaars ("The Cascaded Hough Transform as an Aid in Aerial Image Interpretation"); claims 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Brady ("Fast Parallel Discrete Approximation Algorithm for the Radon Transform"); claims 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuytelaars; claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Tuytelaars and Clark ("Location and Recovery of Text on Oriented Surfaces"); and claims 7 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuytelaars and Lutton ("Contribution to the Determination of Vanishing Points Using Hough Transform").

Allowable claim 9 is amended into independent form to include the features of claim 1. Furthermore, claim 25 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 9. Claim 27 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 30. Thus, independent claims 9, 25 and 27 are allowable.

Claims 31-49 are added which include the subject matter of canceled claims 2-8 and 12-23. Claims 10, 11, 24, 26, 28, 29 and 31-49 depend from the allowable independent claims and therefore are also allowable. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 9-11, 24-29 and 31-49 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 29, 2004

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